

him to the bill S. 1042, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 167, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

(c) **ADDITIONAL DEATH GRATUITY.**—In the case of an active duty member of the armed forces who died between October 7, 2001, and May 11, 2005, and was not eligible for an additional death gratuity under section 1478(e) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 1013(b) of Public Law 109–13, the eligible survivors of such decedent shall receive an additional death gratuity in the same amount and under the same conditions as provided under such section 1478(e).

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on needed improvements to defense acquisition processes and organizations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 27 at 10 a.m.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1701, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to improve the reclamation of abandoned mines; and S. 961, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to preauthorize and reform the abandoned mine reclamation program and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 27, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security be authorized to meet on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. for a hearing regarding “Housing-Related Programs for the Poor: Can We Be Sure That Federal Assistance Is Getting to Those Who Need It Most?”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, EXPORT AND TRADE PROMOTION

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on energy supplies in Eurasia and implications for U.S. energy security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Tuesday, September 27, 2005 at 10 a.m. for a hearing entitled, “Alternative Personnel Systems: Assessing Progress in the Federal Government.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privilege of the floor be granted to Jay Apperson for the duration of the debate on the nomination of Judge Roberts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent that my chief counsel on the Judiciary Committee, William Smith, be granted the privilege of the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXTENDING WAIVER AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2132.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2132) to extend the waiver authority of the Secretary of Education with respect to student financial assistance dur-

ing a war or other military operation or national emergency.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2132) was read the third time and passed.

#### POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 221, S. 37.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 37) to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years.

There being no objection, Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 37) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 37

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. 2-YEAR EXTENSION OF POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH.

Section 414(h) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking “2005” and inserting “2007”.

#### MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1771

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1771) to express the sense of Congress and to improve reporting with respect to the safety of workers in the response and recovery activities related to Hurricane Katrina, and for other purposes.

Mr. COBURN. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

#### DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—H.R. 2107

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H.R. 2107 be